

REMARKS

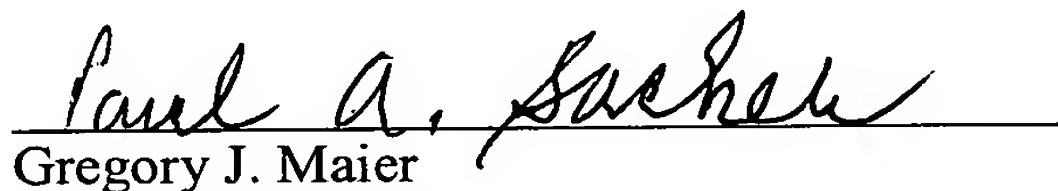
Favorable reconsideration of this Application as presently amended and in light of the following discussion is respectfully requested.

A Notice of Allowance was issued on June 16, 2004 and Claim 17 stands allowed in the present Application. The foregoing amendment of the specification corrects a minor error found in the Examiner's Amendment, specifically, the correct filing date of the U.S. priority application (Serial Number 09/611,664) is July 6, 2000. No new matter has been added.

Accordingly, it is respectfully requested this Amendment be entered and a Supplemental Notice of Allowance be issued.

Respectfully submitted,

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